Applicants: Meiri-Bendek et al. Application No.: 10/576,240

Examiner: WATTS, Jenna A..

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) An enzymatically prepared fat base composition comprising a mixture

of vegetable-derived triglycerides, characterized in that:

the total palmitic acid residues content is at most 38% of the total fatty acid residues; and

at least 60% of the fatty acid residues moieties at the sn-2 position of the glycerol backbone are

palmitic acid residues.

2. (Previously presented) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 62% of the total

palmitic acid residues are at the sn-2 position of the glycerol backbone.

3. (Previously presented) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein up to 70% of the total

palmitic acid residues are at the sn-2 position of the glycerol backbone.

4. (Currently amended) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 70% of the fatty

acid residues moieties at the sn-1 and sn-3 positions of the glycerol backbone are oleic and other

unsaturated fatty acid residues moieties.

5. (Currently amended) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 40%, preferably

40-60%, of said unsaturated fatty acid residues moieties at the sn-1 and sn-3 positions are oleic acid

residues moieties.

6. (Currently amended) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 6%, preferably 6-

17%, of said unsaturated fatty acid residues moieties at the sn-1 and sn-3 positions are linoleic acid

residues moieties.

7. (Previously presented) A substitute human milk fat composition comprising a blend of at

least 25% of the fat base composition of claim 1 with up to 75% of at least one vegetable oil.

8. (Currently amended) The substitute human milk fat composition of claim 7, wherein said

vegetable oil may be selected from the group comprising is any one of soy oil, palm tree oil, canola

oil, coconut oil, palm kernel oil, sunflower oil, corn oil and rapeseed oil.

9. (Previously presented) An infant formula comprising the substitute human milk fat

composition of claim 7.

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10. (Previously presented) An infant formula comprising at least one protein component and at

least one fat component, wherein said fat component is the substitute human milk fat composition of

claim 7, further optionally comprising vitamins, minerals, nucleotides, amino acids and

carbohydrates.

11. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of the fat base composition of claim 1,

comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting a palmitic acid rich oil with unsaturated fatty acids, preferably oleic acid, in the

presence of an insoluble catalyst;

(b) removing the catalyst;

(c) distilling the excess free fatty acids;

(d) bleaching the oil; and optionally

(e) deodorization of the product of step (d).

12. (Currently amended) The process of claim 11, optionally further comprising a step of

fractionation preceding the deodorization step (e).

13. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of the substitute human milk fat

composition of claim 7, comprising admixing said vegetable oil with the fat base composition of claim

1.

(Currently amended) Use of the The fat base composition of claim 1 for use in the 14.

preparation of a substitute human milk fat composition for infant formulae.

(Currently amended) Use of the The fat composition of claim 7 for use in the preparation of 15.

an infant formula.

16. (New) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 40-60% of said unsaturated fatty

acid residues at the sn-1 and sn-3 positions are oleic acid residues.

17. (New) The fat base composition of claim 1, wherein at least 6-17% of said unsaturated fatty

acid residues at the sn-1 and sn-3 positions are linoleic acid residues.

18. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein said unsaturated fatty acid is oleic acid.

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19. (New) A substitute human milk fat composition according to claim 7 wherein said blend comprises from 25% to 50% of the fat base composition of claim 1 mixed with from 50% to 75% of at least one vegetable oil.